



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

ALGONQUIN 5-5000

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 1959, cont. page 2 Zeiger

DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN ALASKA

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

MOTOR VESSEL ANNA JACKMAN

Mr. R. V. Nelson, Captain
Box 422
Petersburg, Alaska

Rev. W. W. Zeiger, Evangelist
Box 658
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Approximately six days had weather bad enough to prevent us from traveling. However, the time wasn't lost since work continued. The travel time which might have been lost if we did not have radar would easily triple the figure above.

With the economy becoming stabilized after the first of the year following the recession, the pulp business began to boom with a greater demand for logs than the camps could supply. The hungry mills have created a mushroom of camps already going and the creation of half a dozen new ones. We are hard pressed to serve the ones already existing, much less expanding to cover the new ones. Most of the new ones are in the Sitka area.

1959 saw more reception to our work as we became better acquainted in the camps. People expressed their appreciation for our efforts with their young people and the opportunities we provide in church training. We have conducted Bible studies in several camps with small, but steady response.

Church services reflect the effect of steady calling with ever-increasing attendance. For the first time in my two and a half years on the boat, men began coming to the services this early spring. There is a need for more regular and consistent visits in order to develop their interest to solid commitment.

Familiarity with our work has resulted in several families asking for counselling services so that the boat is gradually beginning to perform the services of a church in a community.

Response to the boat work in general has led to a study of the possibility of forming a mobile church in connection with the boat ministry. A Presbytery committee has the matter under study.

The new boat has proved its worth in its many tasks. She is an effective instrument for the work of the Lord. The groups riding on her are more rested at their destination and the chapel is well designed for worship purposes.

William Zeiger

NOV 30 1959

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Rev. William W. Zeiger
November 20, 1959

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 1959

The Anna Jackman was called upon for a multitude of duties in its first full year of operation. She traveled 10,777 miles to have actual contact with 3,351 people via calling and transportation. She traveled 3.23 miles for each person reached.

Thirteen weeks out of the year were spent transporting people on two choir trips, two Presbytery meetings, a military chaplain's retreat, a ministerial retreat, a church picnic, three camp groups, one summer work team, and one work camp.

Five weeks, two in May and three in September, were used for maintenance and repair. An additional four weeks were spent in various ports because of mechanical failure(not an annual event!). An accumulative week was spent getting boat supplies.

Eleven weeks were spent in home port. Part of that time was spent in maintenance and repair, correspondence, assisting in local church services, but all of it was time at home.

With these activities, a balance of 21 weeks spread throughout the year remained for actual calling and services within the area south of Petersburg in Southeast Alaska. Three weeks of this time was sandwiched between transportation runs and some flying while the boat was laid up. See the statistical report for figures the boat calling ministry.

Some of our transportation work furnished a valuable service to the calling ministry by giving young people at our points of call the opportunity to meet with other Christian young people for study and growth. The effect of these young people returning has had visible results among parents who took their beliefs for granted.

At Edna Bay, a Sunday school has been reorganized with three teachers and 33 pupils. They are making Christmas decorations to pay for their materials and have started a Christmas program.

Narrative Report for 1959 from the
Director of Christian Education for
the Presbytery of Alaska

The work of the D.C.E. for 1959 has included "Lend-Lease" Counseling in five of our churches, heading up the primary department in the Lab School at Haines, and supervising the summer program.

A brief summary of the Counseling work done in the Haines church will include organization of and meetings with the Christian Education Committee, meetings with the Session and Trustees, demonstration teaching with the teachers, rearrangement of class rooms, building and addition of new equipment, and repainting the primary room. Consideration of the need of a new class room for the Junior Highs brought about some complete changes - a new furnace for the recreation hall and a new kitchen, with the old kitchen put to use as a supply room for the teachers. This project has only recently been completed, ~~but~~ and although these were needs already recognized, immediate work on it started with the need for a Junior High class room and keeping all the Junior together in another situation. While I was still there, the women set aside the proceeds of one of their sales for the project. It has been good to learn recently that the plans for the two departments have gone through. Work nights, a presentation of Christian Education and its meaning to the congregation, and an Open House for parents, were all means of training parents and members in their responsibility for the Christian Education of their children.

The six weeks spent in the Craig-Klawock churches were interrupted by the spring meeting of Presbytery and by Easter week. A disturbing problem there was working with teachers and with the minister who were leaving Craig and which meant almost no follow up of my work. The outstanding accomplishment here was the turn-out of parents on work nights to help repaint the fellowship hall and make new tables and screens for the primary and kindergarten classes. Presentation of their involvement in the Christian Education program and also a night for "Sunday School for Parents", were events which were well attended.

An interesting plan for the Counseling service has been used in the Juneau area. The work concentrates on one of the three churches each month, with some tri-church events and an over-lapping of meetings in each of the churches. We started out with a Christian Ed. conference for the three churches on September 27, which ~~even~~ was well-planned and for which we had some excellent leadership. Saturday mornings have been used to bring together the teachers of each of three departments from the 3 churches to observe some demonstration teaching. The teachers watch work with the children in carrying out methods and the use of suggested material in the Faith and Life curriculum which seem so difficult to many but simple when they see them used and that they do work. Each Sunday morning is also demonstration time for the teachers of the various departments in which they work. they work with me in a team-teaching situation in their own rooms.

One of the most interesting demonstrations in this area has been visitation in the homes with the Parent-Teacher magazine, Teachers and Deacons meet at the church for a half hour of pre-training. Then teams of two go out to visit in at least three homes. They all return within an hour and a half for evaluation and have been very enthusiastic. The remainder of the visits are up to the teachers. This demonstration is to show them the value of home visitation and to give them courage. to continue these visits each quarter.

The summer program beginning in June and ending August 13 had several highlights. Beginning with the twenty~~one~~^{one} young people who came from several of the other States to assist in our work. As a group they were dedicated, enthusiastic, and cooperative in all of our projects. Their adjustment to the various situations so new and different to each of them, was an outstanding characteristic of this group. They were thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated wherever they served.

Members of this group made it possible for the first time to have services for children and adults from June through August in the Hood Bay Cannery community. A play ground was cleared and dedicated there, too, where 150 children each week were supervised in a play program.

Another part of the group went in to reshingle the roof of the Angoon church - the first time in 32 years.

Bible Schools - 18 in number- were held in other cannery communities, in logging camps, in our Indian villages and in a few of the larger towns. Teams from this large group of young people worked in our churches and preaching points with others of our workers and the teachers and parents of those communities, to teach 1042 of the children in the South Eastern area of Alaska.

Seventeen of this number joined together to finish out their summer in Alaska in a work camp -inebuilding the new kitchen and dining room at Rainbow Glacier Camp. With the help of Miss Isabel Miller, who volunteered her leadership and experience at the meeting of Presbytery last spring, and that of the Hartmanns, these ten days were the tremendous climax for the young people in an altogether wonderful summer that meant probably more to their spiritual growth than any one other experience. of the summer. It was a great privilege to work with these young people and to have a part in the summer work.

Mrs. Mayreld Swanson

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Director of Christian Ed.
Presbytery of Alaska